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## The Supreme Court will hear a case with a lot of 'buts' & 'ifs' over the meaning of 'and'

By Mark Sherman **Associated Press** WASHINGTON (AP) — It's hard to imagine a less contentious or more innocent word than "and."

But how to interpret that simple conjunction has prompted a complicated legal fight that lands in the Supreme Court on Oct. 2, the first day of its new term. What the justices decide could affect thousands of prison sentences each year.

Federal courts across the country disagree about whether the word, as it is used in a bipartisan 2018 criminal justice overhaul, indeed means "and" or whether it means "or." Even an appellate panel that upheld a longer sentence called the structure of the provision "perplexing."

The Supreme Court has stepped in to settle the dispute.

It's the kind of task the justices — and maybe their English teachers — love. The case requires the close

parsing of a part of a federal statute, the First Step Act, which aimed in part to reduce mandatory minimum sentences and give judges more discretion.

In particular, the justices will be examining a so-called safety valve provision that is meant to spare low-level, nonviolent drug dealers who agree to plead guilty and cooperate with prosecutors from having to face often longer mandatory sentences.

It's much more than an exercise in diagramming a sentence. Nearly 6,000 people convicted of drug trafficking in the 2021 budget year alone are in the pool of those who might be eligible for reduced sentences, according to data compiled by the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Overall, more than 10,000 people sentenced since the law took effect could be affected, according to Douglas Berman, an expert on sentencing at Ohio State University's law school.



The Supreme Court is seen in Washington, with the U.S. Capitol in the distance, Nov. 4, 2020. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File)

The provision lists three criteria for allowing judges to forgo a mandatory minimum sentence that basically look to the severity of prior crimes. Congress did not make it easy by writing the section in the negative so that a judge can exercise discretion in sentencnot have" three sorts of criminal history.

The question is how to determine eligibility for the safety valve — whether any of the conditions is enough to disqualify someone or whether it takes all three to be ineligible.

ing if a defendant "does Lawyers for Mark Pulsifer, the inmate whose challenge the court will hear, say all three conditions must apply before the longer sentence can be imposed. The government says just one condition is enough to merit the mandatory minimum.







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## California Gov. Gavin Newsom signs bills to enhance the state's protections for LGBTQ+ people

By Associated Press SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

 California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed several bills Saturday aimed at bolstering the state's protections for LGBTQ+ people, a day after issuing a controversial veto that was criticized by advocates.

The new laws include leaislation that focuses on support for LGBTQ+ youth. needs of a child in foster

required cultural competency training for public school teachers and staff, advisory task force to determine the needs of LG-BTQ+ students and help advance supportive initiatives. A third requires families to show that they can and are willing to meet the

One law sets timelines for care regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

"California is proud to have while another creates an some of the most robust laws in the nation when it comes to protecting and supporting our LGBTQ+ community, and we're committed to the ongoing work to create safer, more inclusive spaces for all Californians," Newsom



Participants take part in the annual LA Pride Parade in West Hollywood, Calif., Sunday, June 9, 2019.

(AP Photo/Richard Vogel, File)

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measures will help protect vulnerable youth, promote acceptance, and create more supportive environments in our schools and communities."

said in a statement. "These

The governor also signed legislation that requires schools serving first through 12th grade to have at least one gender-neutral bathroom available for students by 2026.

The law was spurred by a Southern California school district that instituted a policy requiring schools to tell parents when their children change their pronouns or use a bathroom of a gender other than the one listed on their official paperwork. A judge halted the policy after California Attorney General Rob Bonta sued the Chino Valley Unified School District. The lawsuit is ongoing.

The governor's bill-signings came after Newsom vetoed a bill on Friday that would have required judges to consider whether a parent affirms their child's gender identity when making custody and visitation decisions.

Assemblymember Lori Wilson, a Democrat who introduced the bill and has an adult son who came out as transgender when he was a teenager, was among the LGBTQ+ advocates who criticized the governor's decision.

"I've been disheartened over the last few years as I watched the rising hate and heard the vitriol toward the trans community. My intent with this bill was to give them a voice, particularly in the family court system where a non-affirming parent could have a detrimental impact on the mental health and well-being of a child," Wilson said in a statement.

Newsom said existing laws already require courts to consider health, safety and welfare when determining the best interests of a child in custody cases, including the parent's affirmation of the child's gender identity. The veto comes amid inpolitical battles tense across the country over transgender rights, including efforts to impose bans on aender-affirmina care. bar trans athletes from girls and women's sports, and require schools to notify parents if their children ask to use different pronouns or changes their gender identity.





## Weakening Ophelia still poses a risk of coastal flooding and heavy rain in some parts of the US

By Laura Ungar and Jonathan Mattise

#### **Associated Press**

(AP) - Nearly a day after being downgraded from a tropical storm, Ophelia still threatened parts of the Northeast on Sunday with coastal flooding, lifethreatening waves and heavy rain from Washington to New York City, the National Hurricane Center said.

As Ophelia weakened, a new tropical storm named Philippe brewed in the Atlantic. Even though Ophelia was downgraded Saturday night, meteorologists warned that swells generated by the storm would affect the East Coast for the rest of the weekend, likely causing dangerous surf conditions and rip currents. Ophelia was also expected to drop 1 to 3 inches (2.5 to 7.6 centimeters) of additional rain over parts of the Mid-Atlantic and New England. Isolated river flooding was also possible.

Ophelia was south of Washington on Sunday morning and was expected to continue moving northeast before turning east and then weakening more over the next two days, accord-



Wind driven waves slam into docks along Irving Avenue as Tropical Storm Ophelia reaches Colonial Beach, in Westmoreland County, Va., on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023. (Peter Cihelka/The Free Lance-Star via AP)

ing to the hurricane center. Meanwhile, Philippe was 1,175 miles (1,890 kilometers) west of the Cabo Verde Islands, which are That storm had maximum (75 kph).

The National Weather Service said numerous New Jersey communities reported coastal flooding,

including, including Sea Isle City and Brielle. Thousands of people in the state remained without power Sunday. NJ.com reported off the west coast of Africa. more than 6,000 customers were without electricsustained winds of 50 mph ity Sunday morning, down from a high of 13,000.

Flooding and road closures were also reported in coastal Delaware.

The storm came ashore

Saturday near Emerald Isle, North Carolina, with nearhurricane-strength winds of 70 mph (113 kph), but the winds weakened as the system traveled north, the hurricane center said.

Videos from social media showed significant flooding in the state's riverfront communities such as New Bern, Belhaven and Washington. A few thousand North Carolina homes and businesses remained without electricity Sunday morning, according to poweroutage. us, which tracks utility reports. Even before making landfall, Ophelia proved treacherous enough that five people, including three children, had to be rescued Friday night by the Coast Guard. They were aboard a 38-foot (12-meter) catamaran stuck in choppy water and strong winds while anchored off Cape Lookout, North Carolina.

On Saturday, Greenville police posted a video on Facebook of an officer rescuing a small pit bull from floodwaters. Police said the dog was tied to a fence and "just inches from drowning" when an officer responded after someone called authorities. Animal protection authorities opened an investigation. Elsewhere, a rescue team helped the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office evacuate 15 people from a campground between the Pamlico River and the Chocowinity Bay, according to Brian Haines, a spokesperson for the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.

## All students injured in New York bus crash are expected to recover, superintendent says

#### **Associated Press**

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP) —

All the high school students who were injured in an upstate New York charter bus crash on the way to a band camp are expected to recover, according to their school superintendent.

The bus, one of six carrying students from Farmingdale High School on Long Island, veered off Interstate 84 and rolled over in the center median Thursday in the town of Wawayanda, about 45 miles (72 kilometers) northwest of New York City. Two adults died and other passengers were seriously injured. Paul Defendini, superintendent of

Farmingdale schools, said in a statement Saturday that some of the injured students were still struggling but all are expected to recover, Newsday reported. "I know that they appreciate all the well wishes you are sending and we can't wait to welcome them

back when they are ready to return," Defendini said. The bus that crashed was rari, 77, of Farmingdale, a carrying 40 students and four adults to a band camp in Greeley, Pennsylvania, about a 30-minute drive

It wasn't immediately clear Sunday how many people remained in area hospitals or what their conditions

from the accident site.

were. Messages were left with state and local officials. State police said Saturday that five passengers remained in critical condition. A total of 16 students and two adults were hospitalized on Friday.

The two adults who died were band director Gina Pellettiere, 43, of Massapequa, and Beatrice Ferretired teacher who was serving as a chaperone on the trip. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the crash, seeking to prevent similar accidents, officials said.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said on Thursday that



Emergency responders work the scene of a fatal bus crash, in Wawayanda, N.Y., Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023. The charter bus carrying high school students to a band camp hurtled off a New York highway and down an embankment, officials said.

(NBC New York via AP)

tire failure may have been said it was premature to to blame, but the NTSB speculate.



## Missouri says clinic that challenged transgender treatment restrictions didn't provide proper care

#### By Josh Funk **Associated Press**

(AP) - Missouri officials struck back at one of the clinics that unsuccessfully challenged new state restrictions on gender affirming care, accusing the clinic in a lawsuit of failing to provide proper care for transgender minors even before the new law took effect.

Missouri's Republican Attorney General Andrew Bailey announced the counter lawsuit against St. Louisbased Southampton Community Healthcare on Sunday, two days after it was filed in court.

The ACLU of Missouri, which represented the clinic in challenging the law that bans minors from beginning puberty blockers and outlaws gender-affirming surgeries, didn't immediately respond Sunday to the new filing. And no one ansThe lawsuit said Southampton's doctors admitted in court during the hearing over the new law that they failed to provide comprehensive mental health evaluations to all their patients. Bailey's office argues that violated Missouri's consumer protection law because the clinic didn't follow the accepted standard of care that was in place long before the new restrictions that called for psychiatric evaluations. wered the phone at the clinic Sunday.



Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey speaks to reporters after taking the Oath of Office in Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 3, 2023.

"These providers failed Missouri's children when they rejected even a diluted medical standard and subjected them to irreversible procedures. My office is not standing for it," Bailey said. If Bailey prevails in his lawsuit against Southampton, the clinic could be ordered to pay \$1,000 for each violation and pay restitution to any patients who underwent gender transition procedures without a full mental health assessment.

The new law, which took effect Aug. 28, outlaws puberty blockers, hormones and gender-affirming surgery for minors. Though it allows exceptions for those who were already taking those medications before the law kicked in, the fallout was fast: Both the Washington University Transgender Center at St. Louis Children's Hospital and University of Missouri Health Care in Columbia stopped prescribing puberty blockers and hormones for minors for the purpose of gender transition.

Most transaender adults still have access to health care under the law, but Medicaid won't cover it. Under the law, people who are incarcerated must pay for gender-affirming surgeries out of pocket.

Every major medical organization, including the American Medical Association, has opposed bans on gender-affirming care for minors and supported their access to medical care when treatments are administered appropriately. Lawsuits have been filed in several states to fight against restrictions that were enacted this year.

The Food and Drug Administration approved puberty blockers 30 years ago to treat children with precocious puberty — a condition that causes sexual development to begin much earlier than usual. Sex hormones — synthetic forms of estrogen and testosterone — were approved decades ago to treat hormone disorders or as birth control pills.

The FDA has not approved the medications specifically to treat gender-questioning youth. But they have been used for many years for that purpose "off label," a common and accepted practice for many medical conditions. Doctors who treat transgender patients say those decades of use are proof the treatments are not experimental.

Critics of providing gender-affirming care to minors have raised concerns about children changing their minds. Yet the evidence suggests detransitioning is not as common as opponents of transgender medical treatment for youth contend, though few studies exist and they have their weaknesses.



Former President Jimmy Carter sits on the Atlanta Falcons bench before the first half of an NFL football game between the Atlanta Falcons and the San Diego Chargers, Oct. 23, 2016, in Atlanta

**Associated Press** 

and his wife, Rosalynn, on **PLAINS, Ga. (AP)** — Former Saturday made a surprise President Jimmy Carter appearance at the Plains

## Former President Jimmy Carter makes appearance at peanut festival ahead of his 99th birthday

social media post on X, for- taken by a spectator. merly known as Twitter.

The former president and his wife are seen in a reposted video riding through the festivities in a Black SUV.

"Beautiful day for President & Mrs. Carter to enjoy a ride through the Plains Peanut Festival! And just a

Peanut Festival in their week before he turns 99." Georgia hometown, the the Carter Center wrote on Carter Center wrote in a X after sharing the video

> The former president is 98 and has been in home hospice care since February. He turns 99 on Oct. 1. The former first lady has since been diagnosed with dementia. The couple this summer marked their 77th wedding anniversary, ex

tending their record as the nation's longest-married first couple.

"It was amazing considering that he is in hospice care, and he is tough enough to come out here. In my opinion, he is one of the toughest men to serve as President, and he is my favorite," Reed Elliotte, a Corbin, Kentucky resident, told WALB-TV.



## President Macron says France will end its military presence in Niger, pull its ambassador after coup

By Angela Charlton and **Dalatou Mamane Associated Press** 

PARIS (AP) — President Emmanuel Macron announced Sunday that France will end its military presence in Niger and pull its ambassador out of the country as a result of the coup that removed the democratically elected president.

Niger's junta said in response that the announcement signals a "new step towards the sovereignty" of the country.

"Imperialist and neo-colonialist forces are no longer welcome on our national territory. The new era of cooperation, based on mutual respect and sovereignty is already underway," it said in a statement.

The announcement was a significant, if expected, blow to France's policy in Africa, with French troops having had to pull out of neighboring Mali and Burkina Faso in recent years after coups there. France had stationed thousands of troops in the Sahel region at the request of African leaders to fight Islamic extremist groups.

France has maintained some 1,500 troops in Niger since the July coup, and had repeatedly refused an order by the new junta for its ambassador to leave, saying that France didn't



French President Emmanuel Macron, speaks to medias during a press conference at the Elysee Palace in Paris, on July 21, 2023.

recognize the coup leaders as legitimate.

But tensions had mounted in recent weeks between France and Niger, a former French colony, and Macron said recently that French diplomats were surviving on military rations as they holed up in the embassy.

Macron's announcement came after the coup leaders issued a statement earlier Sunday that they were closing Niger's airspace to French planes, commercial and military, so that the new leadership could "retake total control of its skies sion did not apply to other international aircraft.

Ali Sekou Ramadan, an aide to Niger's deposed President Mohamed Bazoum, told The Associated Press that Bazoum requested that Macron withdraw the French ambassador, Sylvain Itte, "in order to reduce tension."

In an interview with the France-2 and TF1 television networks, Macron said he spoke to Bazoum on Sunday and told him that "France has decided to bring back its ambassador, and in the coming hours our ambassador and sev-

(AP Photo/Christophe Ena, File)

France."

He added, "And we will put an end to our military cooperation with the Niger authorities because they don't want to fight against terrorism anymore."

He said the troops would be gradually pulled out, likely by the end of the year, in coordination with the coup leaders ''because we want it to take place peacefully."

He said France's military presence was in response to a request from Niger's government at the time. That military cooperation between France and Niger and its territory." The deci- eral diplomats will return to had been suspended since

the coup, however. The junta leaders claimed Bazoum's government wasn't doing enough to protect the country from the insur-

The junta is now under sanctions by Western and regional African powers.

Insa Garba Saidou, a local activist who assists Niger's new military rulers with their communications, said they would continue to monitor developments until the French ambassador leaves the country. He also demanded a clear deadline for the withdrawal of the French troops.

"This announcement from the French president announces the victory of the people of Niger. However, we are going to take it with a lot of reservation because I no longer believe in Mr. Macron," said Saidou.

The junta in August gave the French ambassador 48 hours to leave. After the deadline expired without France recalling him, the coup leaders then revoked his diplomatic immunity.

In New York on Friday, the military government that seized power in Niger accused U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres of obstructing the West African nation's full participation at the U.N.'s annual meeting of world leaders in order to appease France and its allies.

### Some UK police put down guns after an officer is charged with murder in the shooting of a Black man

By Jill Lawless **Associated Press** 

police force said Sunday that some officers are refusing to conduct armed was charged with murder department. Kaba's fam- while they consider their unarmed Black man.

Metropolitan Police marksman was charged Wednesday over the September 2022 death of Chris Kaba, 24. Kaba was killed after officers in an unmarked vehicle pursued

by a single bullet fired LONDON (AP) — London's through the windshield as The Metropolitan Police he sat in the Audi car.

The case renewed allegations of institutional racism patrols after a colleague within the London police back from armed duties in the fatal shooting of an ily welcomed the murder position." It said officers charge against the officer, who has not been publicly named. He was granted conditional bail and is expected to stand trial next

London's police officers 100 officers had turned in and stopped the car he carry firearms, and the their firearm permits and

was driving. He was struck ones that do undergo special training.

> force said Sunday that "a number of officers have taken the decision to step were concerned that the murder charge "signals a shift in the way the decisions they make in the most challenging circumstances will be judged."

Only about one in 10 of The BBC said more than

that police from neighboring forces were called in to help patrol London on Saturday night.

The force said it still had "significant firearms capability," but had asked the Ministry of Defense to provide assistance with "counterterrorism support should it be needed."

The request means soldiers could be called on to do specific tasks the police are unable to perform, but they won't perform routine police work or have the power of arrest.



inis is an unaatea tile tamily photo issued by charity INQUEST of Chris Kaba. London's police force says some officers are refusing to conduct armed patrols after a police marksman was charged with murder over the shooting of an unarmed Black man.

(INQUEST via AP, File)



## India had been riding a geopolitical high. But it comes to the UN with a mess on its hands

By Krutika Pathi **Associated Press** 

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — The Group of 20 Summit, hosted by India earlier this month, couldn't have gone better for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His pledge to make the African Union a permanent member became reality. And under his leadership, the fractured grouping signed off on a final statement. It was seen as a foreign policy triumph for Modi and set the tone for India as a great emerging power.

Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar was expected to seize on India's geopolitical high in his speech at the United Nations on Tuesday. But circumstances have changed — quite abruptly — and India comes to the General Assembly podium with a diplomatic mess on its hands.

On Monday, Canadian leader Justin Trudeau made a shocking claim: India may have been involved in the killing of a Sikh Canadian citizen in a Vancouver suburb in June.

Trudeau said there were "credible allegations" of links to New Delhi, which India angrily rejected as absurd. It has been a free fall since: Each expelled a diplomat, India suspended visas for Canadians, and Ottawa said it may reduce consulate staff over safety



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is welcomed at the Bharatiya Janata Party headquarters, where he was felicitated a day after the women's reservation bill was passed by the Indian Parliament in New Delhi, Friday, Sep. 22, 2023.

(AP Photo/STR)

concerns. Ties between the two once-close countries have sunk to their lowest point in years.

"In the immediate term, this will bring New Delhi back down to Earth. It has a crisis that it needs to work through, quickly but carefully," said Michael Kugelman, director of the Wilson Center's South Asia Institute.

#### TENSIONS WERE ALREADY SIMMERING

On the last day of the G20 summit, Trudeau posed and smiled with Modi as

though, tensions were high. Trudeau skipped an official dinner hosted by the Indian president, and local media reported he was snubbed by Modi when he got a quick "pull aside" instead of a bilateral meeting. To make things worse, a flight snag saw him stranded in New Delhi for 36 hours. Finally back in Canada, Trudeau said he had raised the allegations with Modi at the G20.

As India heads to the United Nations, the allegations have "thrown cold water world leaders paid respects on India's G20 achieveat Mahatma Gandhi's me-ments," said Happymon morial. Behind the scenes Jacob, founder of the New

Delhi-based Council for Strategic and Defense Research.

India has long sought greater recognition at the United Nations. For decades, it has eyed a permanent seat at the Security Council, one of the world's most prestigious high tables. But it has also been critical of the global forum, partly because it wants more representation that's in line with its rising soft power.

"The U.N. Security Council, which is the core of the United Nations system, is a family photo of the victors of the Second World War plus China," Jacob said. India believes "it simply does not reflect the demographic, economic and geopolitical realities of today," he added. Others in the elite aroup include France, Russia, Britain and the United States.

In April, Jaishankar said India, the world's most populous country with the fastest growing economy among major nations, couldn't be ignored for too long. The U.N. Security Council, he said, "will be compelled to provide permanent membership."

The United States, Britain and India's Cold War-era ally Russia have voiced support for its permanent membership over the years. But U.N. bureaucracy has stopped the council from expanding. And even if that changes, China — India's neighbor and regional rival — would likely block a request.

#### INSTEAD OF THE UN, INDIA MAKES SOME END RUNS

Kept out of the U.N.'s most important body, Modi has made sure that his country is smack at the center of a tangled web of global poli-

On one hand, New Delhi is part of the Quad and the G20, seen as mostly Western groups. On the other, it wants to expand its influence in the BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, where Russia and China dominate.

## Leader of Canada's House of Commons apologizes for honoring man who fought for Nazis



Yaroslav Hunka, right, waits for the arrival of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the House of Commons in Ottawa, Onatario on Friday, Sept. 22, 2023.

(Patrick Doyle/The Canadian Press via AP)

#### By Rob Gillies **Associated Press**

TORONTO (AP) — The speaker of Canada's House of Commons apologized Sunday for recognizing a man who fought for a Nazi military unit during World War II.

Just after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy delivered an address in the House of Commons on Friday, Canadian lawmakers gave 98-year-old Yaroslav Hunka a standing ovation He added that his fellow

when Speaker Anthony Rota drew attention to him. Rota introduced Hunka as a war hero who fought for the First Ukrainian Division.

"In my remarks following dent of Ukraine, I recognized an individual in the gallery. I have subsequently become aware of more information which causes me to regret my decision to do so," Rota said in a state-

Parliament members and the Ukraine delegation were not aware of his plan to recognize Hunka. Rota noted Hunka is from his district.

the address of the Presi- "I particularly want to extend my deepest apologies to Jewish communities in Canada and around the world. I accept full responsibility for my action," Rota said.

> Hunka could not be immediately reached comment.





# Introducing Casa del Mar: Experience Luxury Living at Its Finest with Exclusive July Sales Special

Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba, a premier beachfront resort since 1986, invites you to indulge in a truly unforgettable vacation experience. Located on the stunning Eagle Beach, Casa del Mar offers luxurious accommodations, world-class amenities, and a range of recreational activities to provide the ultimate vacation experience.

Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba presents an exclusive July sales special that will leave you longing for ownership

Throughout the month of July, Casa del Mar presents an exclusive and irresistible \$500 discount on any resort owned suite purchase, providing you with the perfect opportunity to own "your own piece of Aruba". This limitedtime offer applies to both 1 bedroom suites (sleeps 4) and 2 bedroom suites (sleeps 6), accommodating every individual or family, seeking for their secured vacation destination. With recent renovations, Casa del Mar sets the standard for luxury and relaxation, ensuring that your experience is unparalleled. Starr Ramos, spokesperson for Casa del Mar, expressed their commitment to making luxury vacationing accessible and affordable, stating, "Casa del Mar offers an unparalleled and personalized experience, whether it's a romantic getaway or a spacious suite to accommodate a large family. CDM boasts amongst the most affordable maintenance fees in Aruba based on square footage, allowing you to enjoy your suite without breaking the bank. Transparent and affordable maintenance fees maximize your investment while minimizing costs, making Casa del Mar an exceptional value."

As an owner at Casa del Mar, you gain access to amenities that include personalized services, breathtaking views, a newly renovated fitness center, clinical massage services, and tantalizing on-property restaurants. Lounge at the beachfront and take strolls along the pristine shores, as serenity awaits you. Say goodbye to the hassle of searching



for accommodations or dealing with fluctuating rental prices and say hello to consistently exceptional vacation experiences. What sets Casa del Mar apart from traditional timeshares is its offering of lifelong ownership Create a legacy of cherished vacations in Aruba by passing down your ownership to future generations, ensuring that your family can enjoy the beauty of this tropical paradise for years to come. In addition, the resort is currently renovating its Presidential Suites' bathrooms to provide an even more luxurious and relaxing experience. With elegant fixtures, spacious showers, and stunning accents, the bathrooms offer a truly indulgent retreat for owners and guests.

Casa del Mar's idyllic location on Eagle Beach, recently ranked as the number one beach in the Caribbean, offers pristine white sandy shores and crystal-clear turquoise waters.

For those seeking flexibility, Casa Del Mar Beach Resort Aruba allows the exchange of vacation weeks through external programs Due to its high exchange value, you can explore new destinations while maintaining the security and comfort of your home resort.

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#### About Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba

Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba is a premier beachfront resort since 1986 and located at Aruba's stunning Eagle Beach. With 40 1-bedroom Ambassador suites and 107 two-bedroom Presidential Suites the resort offers luxurious spacious accommodations, world-class amenities, and a range of recreational activities for an unforgettable vacation experience. With a commitment to excellence, Casa del Mar Beach Resort Aruba provides exceptional service and continues to be a favorite destination for travelers from around the world.













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## Aruba Tourism Authority honors loyal visitors at Aruba Beach Club

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. These ambassadors were honored with a certificate acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to auests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba) Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba) Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassador of Aruba Mr. Ismael & Mrs. Nancy Gomez from Carabobo, Venezuela and Good-



will Ambassador of Aruba Mr. Sergio Gomez from Carabobo, Venezuela.

Ms.Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Aruba Beach Club bestowed the certificate to the honorees, presented them with memorable gifts, and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their best-loved vacation destination, and astheir homeawayfromhome.

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were: Aruba's nice sandy beaches "Thing to do! Aruba's incredible nature Aruba's warm consistent weather all year round

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honoreesfor their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

The hospitality of Aruba's people



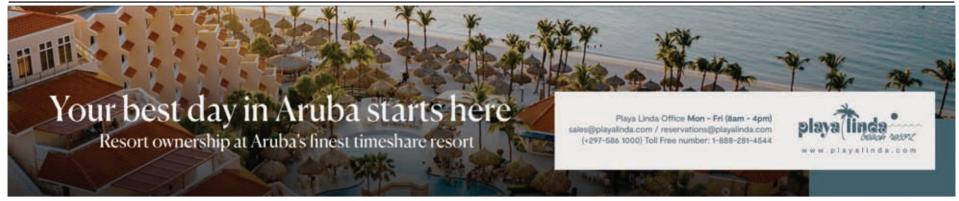
### Aruba to me

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### Aruba: the legend behind its name

loric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curacao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were

(Oranjestad)—Most folk- caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

> Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of population in the area: "Corobori," Arua said. "Don't come back without news. It's in your hands

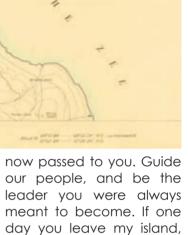
The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son's findings. He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to

how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you."

"Don't worry," Corobori replied. "As soon as we have any information, we will let you know." Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several small hills, but no sign of a village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: "Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curacao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that's not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt."

leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock, he said: "My children, many years have passed, and I've asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to rest. The God of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is



do not forget that it is also

yours. This is my last wish:

When I die, bury me in our

maize plantation."

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Paradera Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Paradera Church.

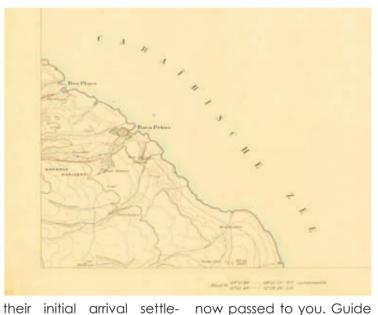
And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names\*, like Guadiriki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island.

Source: Un storia di e Indjan Arua (A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf (Dufi) Kock







ment, now known as Santo

Largo in Savaneta. The next

morning they hiked along

the Spaans Lagoen near

the Mangel Halto Beach

and reached the area of

Bushiri. There, they boarded

they kayaks and heading

to what we know now as

Malmok, where they found

rocks of salt. After a couple

days of exploring the island

and gathering some salt

rocks, they left for Venezu-

ela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to

Aruba, collecting salt. After

a while they settled on the

island, generations of fami-

lies living along the coast.

Corobori was the first indig-

enous inhabitant in our his-

tory to explore the entirety

Arua, after decades as the

of the island.





## Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now



(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the

general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.



In the pre-industrial era of trace of a cultural climate the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the time, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherland Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity that could have created a cultural ambience, with only one way to generate profit at the time for the sub existence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different economic pilar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experienced by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island. like going to the movie theater or coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

#### Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much possibilities, local programs

for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island in the mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the general public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piternella, as well as migrant authors José Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the literary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelkboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast station Tele-Aruba in 1963, and with time and



such as "Nos Tera" ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness within the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tonque, Papiamento, but who also produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in response to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

#### The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America, the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/ Dera Gai (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Tik-

Source: Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas



## A brief history of the California Light House

(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curacao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Lighthouse at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck. These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work. It was very challenging because it was full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no



hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of transportation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum

in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 kilometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

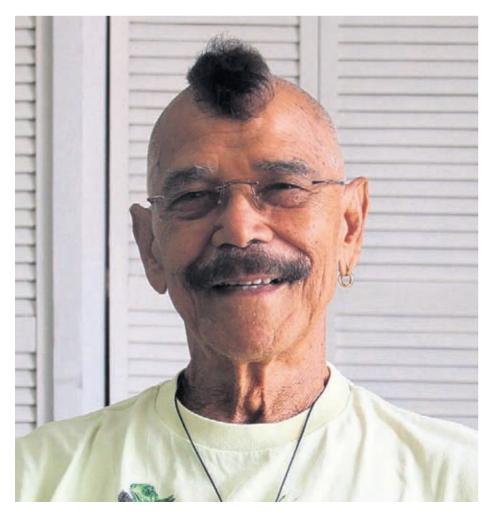
The lighthouse has a long and very interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curacao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curacao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters

wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down, and the weight that comes down pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is descending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the lighthouse rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations.





### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

40 Pull along

41 Woodwind

part

Clumsy

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2 Makes

suitable

3 Turning

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4 Region

5 Free TV

spot:

Abbr.

6 Lend a

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8 Critic's

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9 Stylishly

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11 Asterisk

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ACROSS 1 Fancy party

5 Years

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10 Farm towers 12 Brighten

13 Skilled 14 Formal headwear 16 Greek

vowel 17 Mechanical

learning 18 Twist of

fiction 21 NFL tiebreakers

22 Aloud 23 35-Down variety

24 Class cutter

26 Track trip 29 Discuss 30 Convoy truck

31 Fitting **32** Tom Cruise

movie 34 Entertainer Midler

37 Cat's quarry 38 Snide look

39 Ready for war

#### T I D E ONEAL SCARE ONSET REEVE CAR COY FEE ANTMAN QUAD SHORTFALL T[R|A|T] W[A|T]E[R]F|A|L]LI HALO ITRIED EGG TOE BAR ANODE ELIDE R E R U N NODES TREES TONS

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#### AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different,

9-25CRYPTOQUOTE

VHLDPMLDV FHR SMUU BDKDW

ABIIS PID KJURD HZ J LIILDBP

RBPMU M P CDNHLDV J

LDLIIWF. — OW. VDRVV Saturday's Cryptoquote: EVERY LEAF SPEAKS BLISS TO ME, FALLING FROM THE AUTUMN TREE. — EMILY BRONTE

## The threat of wildfires is rising. So are new artificial intelligence solutions to fight them

#### By Kelvin Chan **Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — Wildfires fueled by climate change have ravaged communities from Maui to the Mediterranean this summer, killing many people, exhausting firefighters and fueling demand for new solutions. Enter artificial intelligence. Firefighters and startups are using Al-enabled cameras to scan the horizon for signs of smoke. A German company is building a constellation of satellites to detect fires from space. And Microsoft is using AI models to predict where the next blaze could be sparked.

With wildfires becoming larger and more intense as the world warms, firefighters, utilities and governments are scrambling to get ahead of the flames by tapping into the latest Al technology — which has stirred both fear and excitement for its potential to transform life. While increasingly stretched first responders hope AI offers them a leg up, humans are still needed to check that the tech is accurate.

California's main firefighting agency this summer started testing an AI system that looks for smoke from more than 1,000 mountaintop camera feeds and is now expanding it statewide. The system is designed to find "abnormalities" and alert emergency command centers, where staffers will confirm whether it's indeed smoke or something else in the air.

"The beauty of this is that it immediately pops up on the screen and those dispatchers or call takers are able to interrogate that screen" and determine whether to send a crew,



Falco Kuester, a researcher at ALERTCalifornia, a program run by the University of California San Diego, looks at imagery of firefighters at a fire from one of the program's cameras, Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, in San Diego.

(AP)

said Phillip SeLegue, staff chief of intelligence for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The cameras, part of a network that workers previously had to watch, provide billions of bytes of data for the AI system to digest. While humans still need to confirm any smoke sightings, the system helps reduce fatigue among staffers typically monitoring multiple screens and cameras, alerting them to look only when there's possible fire or smoke, SeLegue said. It's already helped. A battalion chief got a smoke alert in the middle of the night, confirmed it on his cellphone and called a command center in San Diego to scramble first responders to the remote

The dispatchers said that if they hadn't been alerted, the fire would have been much larger because it likely wouldn't have been noticed until the next morning, SeLegue said.

San Francisco startup Pano Al takes a similar approach, mounting cameras on cell towers that scan for smoke and alert customers, including fire departments, utility companies and ski

The cameras use computer vision machine learning, a type of Al.

"They're trained very specifically to detect smoke or not, and we train them with images of smoke and images of not smoke," CEO Sonia Kastner said.

The images are combined with feeds from government weather satellites that scan for hotspots, along with other data sources, such as social media posts.

The technology gets around one of the main problems in the traditional way of detecting wildfires — relying on 911 calls from passers-by that need confirmation from staffers before crews and waterdropping planes can be deployed.

"Generally, only one in 20 of these 911 calls are actually a wildfire. Even during fire season, it might be a cloud or fog or a barbecue," Kastner said.

Pano Al's systems do still rely on final confirmation, with managers playing a time lapse of the camera feed to ensure it's smoke rising.

For fighting forest fires, "technology is becoming really essential," said Larry Bekkedahl, senior vice president of energy delivery at Portland General Electric, Oregon's largest utility and a Pano Al customer.



# High-speed rail was touted as a game-changer in Britain. Costs are making the government think twice

By Jill Lawless Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The British government confirmed Sunday it may scrap a big chunk of an overdue and over-budget high-speed rail line once touted as a way to attract jobs and investment to northern England.

British media reported that an announcement is expected this week that the line will end in Birmingham – 100 miles (160 kilometers) from London -- rather than further north in Manchester.

The Conservative government insists no final decision has been made about the embattled High Speed 2 project.

But Cabinet minister Grant Shapps said it was "proper and responsible" to reconsider a project whose costs have ballooned because of high inflation driven by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

"We've seen very, very high global inflation in a way that no government could have predicted," said Shapps, a former transportation secretary who now serves as the U.K.'s defense minister.

"It would be irresponsible to simply spend money, carry on as if nothing had changed," he told the BBC.

The projected cost of the line, once billed as Europe's largest infrastructure project, was estimated at 33 billion pounds in 2011 and has soared to more than 100 billion pounds (\$122 billion) by some estimates.

HS2 is the U.K.'s second high-speed rail line, after the HS1 route that links London and the Channel Tunnel connecting England to France. With trains traveling at a top speed of around 250 m.p.h. (400 kph), the new railway was intended to slash journey times and increase capacity between London, the central England city of Birmingham and the northern cities of Manchester and Leeds.



A train passes the construction site of the High Speed 2 (HS2) rail line at Euston station in London, Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020.

Though it drew opposition from environmentalists and lawmakers representing districts along the route, the project was touted as a way to strengthen the north's creaky, overcrowded and unreliable train network. The government hailed it as a key plank in its plan to "level up" prosperity across the country.

The north of England, which used to be Britain's economic engine, saw industries such as coal, cotton and shipbuilding disappear in the last decades of the 20th century, as London and the south grew richer in an economy dominated by finance and services.

The government canceled the Birmingham-to-Leeds leg of HS2 in 2021 but kept the plan to lay tracks on the 160 miles (260 km) between London and Manchester. Former Conservative Prime Minister Boris Johnson, a longtime champion of the project, said cutting it back even further "makes no sense at all."

"It is no wonder that Chinese universities teach the constant cancellation of U..K infrastructure as an example of what is wrong with democracy," Johnson said.

Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham said people in northern England were "always treated as secondclass citizens when it comes to transport."

"If they leave a situation where the southern half of the country is connected by modern high-speed lines, and the north of England is left with Victorian infrastructure, that is a recipe for the north-south divide to become a north-south chasm over the rest of

this century," Burnham, a member of the opposition Labour Party, told British TV channel Sky News.

The government has also delayed work on bringing the line all the way to Euston station in central London. When it opens, some time between 2029 and 2033, trains will start and finish at Old Oak Common station in the city's western suburbs.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan said that would create "a ridiculous situation where a 'high speed' journey between Birmingham and central London could take as long as the existing route, if not longer."

"The government's approach to HS2 risks squandering the huge economic opportunity that it presents and turning it instead into a colossal waste of public money," Khan said in a letter to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.



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# A rare Truman Capote story from the early 1950s is being published for the first time

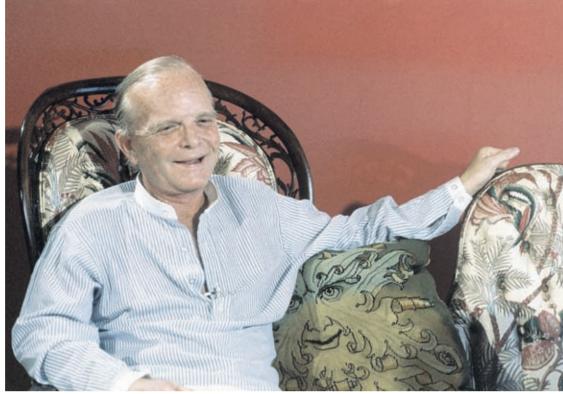
By Hillel Italie Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Along with such classics as "In Cold Blood" and "Breakfast at Tiffany's," Truman Capote had a history of work left uncompleted and unpublished.

Capote, who died in 1984 shortly before his 60th birthday, spent much of his latter years struggling to write his planned Proustian masterpiece "Answered Prayers," of which only excerpts were released. As a young man, he wrote a novel about a love affair between a socialite and a parking lot attendant that was published posthumously under the title "Summer Crossing."

Shorter work, too, was sometimes set aside, including a piece released this week for the first time.

Capote was in his mid-20s and a rising star when he moved from New York City to Taormina, Sicily, in 1950 and settled in a scenic villa named Fontana Vecchia, once occupied by D.H. Lawrence. Acclaimed for his debut novel, "Other Voices, Other Rooms," and for his eerie short story "Miriam," Capote would describe the move to Europe as a needed escape from the American literary scene, which he likened to living inside a light bulb,



Author Truman Capote, shown in his apartment on July, 23, 1980. Capote's unfinished work "Another Day In Paradise," was published for the first time this week, in The Strand Quarterly.

(AP Photo/Nancy Kaye, File)

and an ideal setting to get work done: He wrote the novel "The Grass Harp" in Sicily and worked on numerous short stories.

"I am so happy to be writing stories again — they are my great love," he wrote to a friend.

One story from Sicily, "Another Day In Paradise," is a vignette that appears in the new issue of The Strand Magazine. Written at a time of relative contentment for Capote, "Another Day" is a narrative of disillusion and entrapment: The middle-

aged American heiress Iris Greentree has used her inheritance — a small one because her mother didn't trust her with money — to buy a villa in Sicily. She will end up betrayed by the local man who persuaded to invest her money, Signor Carlo Petruzzi, and too broke to sell the home and return to the U.S.

"The past had trained her to envision an affair from a futureless angle; at the most, she hoped such episodes would end in friendship. It was so humiliating that Carlo should have turned out not to be a friend. She'd trusted him to the extent of her capital: let him sell her the land, allowed him to build the villa, supply, at pirate prices, the native paraphernalia that furnished it," Capote wrote. "He was an emotional crook and, beyond that, a common gangster who'd pocketed at least half the money supposedly spent on Belle Vista. All this she could forgive him — could, but didn't. The unforgivable aspect of the ghastly

man's behavior was that it had destroyed the meaning of these lines in her journal: `I belong. At last, somewhere.'"

Much of Capote's fiction was set in New York or in the American South, but "Another Day in Paradise" has the easy pace, decorative language and cutting sometimes cruel — humor of his best known work, and the themes of loneliness, fear and regret. Thomas Fahy, author of "Understanding Truman Capote," says that the author likely related to Iris Greentree's sense of displacement and alienation.

"He was constantly mov-

ing around as a child, from New Orleans to Alabama to New York to Connecticut," Fahy says. "You could see how his life became very lonely and isolated." The Strand has published rare works by Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck and many others. Managing editor Andrew Gulli found the Capote story in the Library of Congress, inside an "old red- and gold-scrolled Florentine notebook," he writes on the Strand editorial page.

The handwritten manuscript, worked in pencil, was at times so hard to make out that Gulli needed a transcriber to help prepare it for publication.

## Usher to headline the 2024 Super Bowl halftime show in Las Vegas



Usher performs at the 51st annual Songwriters Hall of Fame induction and awards gala at the New York Marriott Marquis Hotel on Thursday, June 16, 2022, in New York.

By Jonathan Landrum Jr Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Usher has a new confession: The

Grammy winner will headline the Apple Music Super Bowl Halftime Show in Las Vegas. The NFL, Apple Music and Roc Nation announced Sunday that Usher would lead the halftime festivities from Allegiant Stadium on Feb. 11. The music megastar, who has won eight Grammys, said he's looking forward to performing on the NFL's biggest stage. "It's an honor of a lifetime to finally check a Super Bowl performance off my bucket list." Usher said in a statement. "I can't wait to bring the world a show unlike anything else

they've seen from me before." Usher spring boarded into superstardom with "Confessions," which sold more than 10 million units in the U.S. and earned him eight nominations at the 2005 Grammys, winning him three. He lost album of the year to Ray Charles' final album "Genius Loves Company," released two months after the legend died. "Confessions" ranks among one of the bestselling music projects of all time and launched No. 1 hits such as "Yeah!" with Ludacris and Lil Jon, "Burn" and "Confessions Part II."

His special edition version included the smooth hit "My Boo," a duet with Alicia Keys. Next year will mark the 20th anniversary of the epic album. Usher, 44, is currently headlining his "Usher: My Way" residency in Las Vegas, which has drawn sold-out shows and rave reviews. He's also beginning an eight-night block of performances in Paris on Sunday. Usher is expected to wrap up his Las Vegas residency in early December before he makes his Super Bowl halftime appearance a couple months later.



## Dolphins rout Broncos 70-20, scoring the most points by an NFL team in a game since 1966

#### By Alanis Thames Associated Press

ami's final drive.

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. (AP)

— De'Von Achane could
hear the crowd at Hard
Rock Stadium chanting
"Three more points!" on Mi-

The Dolphins had the ball inside the Denver Broncos' 30 with less than a minute left, and they were three points shy of breaking the NFL's single-game scoring record.

Instead of sending out his kicker for a potential record-setting field goal, Dolphins coach Mike McDaniel elected to take a knee and run out the clock.

"It felt like chasing points and chasing a record — that's not what we came to the game to do," McDaniel said. They almost got there anyway.

The Dolphins scored the most points in a game by an NFL team since 1966, overwhelming the Broncos 70-20 on Sunday behind the rookie speedster Achane's 203 yards rushing and Tua Tagovailoa's nolook shovel-pass TD.

The Dolphins set a franchise record for scoring and finished two points shy of the NFL's regular-season record — set in 1966 when Washington scored 72 points against the Giants. They are the fourth team in NFL history to score at least 70 points in a regular-season or playoff game.

Many of Miami's starters, including Tagovailoa and star receiver Tyreek Hill, were pulled from the game early in the fourth quarter. Achane caught a 10-yard TD pass from Tagovailoa — the quarterback's fourth TD — in the fourth, and Jason Sanders converted the extra point that made it 56-13 and broke Miami's franchise scoring record of 55 set against St. Louis on Nov. 24, 1977.

"Seventy points is crazy," said Achane, who combined with veteran running back Raheem Mostert for eight touchdowns. "That's like video game-type stuff."

Hill caught a 54-yard

touchdown pass on Miami's opening drive en route to 157 yards receiving on nine catches.

Miami scored touchdowns on eight of nine drives before Mike White replaced Tagovailoa in the fourth. Mostert had his second straight multiple-touchdown game with three rushing TDs and a TD catch. "To be able to put up 70 points, I think that is going to put a lot of teams on notice that we're nothing to play with," Mostert said. "We're that team, just to put it bluntly."



Miami Dolphins running back De'Von Achane (28) celebrates his touchdown during the first half of an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos, Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

(AP Photo/Rebecca Blackwell)







## Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort

Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!

Palm Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach. The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

#### **Culinary Voyage**

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

#### **Creating memories**

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

#### Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

#### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



#### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon!



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call +297 583-8000 / ext 8106 or direct line +297 586-9494

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website watersedge-aruba.com

